

THE NEONATAL FOLLOW-UP PROGRAM

Neonatal Follow-up is a statewide program whose threefold mission is to:

- Offer 2½ year interdisciplinary follow-up services to an at-risk graduate from a referring newborn intensive care unit (NICU)
- Complement the care provided by the child's medical home
- Provide feedback to the referring NICU



The program offers periodic screening by a multidisciplinary team. When indicated, the program assists with or refers to appropriate intervention and financial services. The program provides psychosocial support as needed.

The Neonatal Follow-up Program services are tailored to the needs of each child. A summary of each evaluation is sent to the child's medical home and to the referring newborn intensive care unit. With parent approval, the summary is also sent to other providers involved in the child's care.

The Neonatal Follow-up Program does not serve as a primary health care provider, and strongly supports ongoing participation with the child's primary care provider, the medical home and community services.

ENROLLMENT CRITERIA

Utah residents who are graduates of an NICU:

- Birth weight of ≤ 1200 grams
- Gestational age of ≤ 26 weeks
- Infant requiring ECMO support
- Infant identified with hypoxic ischemic encephalopathy (HIE)

Diagnosis of HIE requires three of the below:

1. Signs of **fetal distress** before delivery: decreased variability, late decelerations and baseline bradycardia
2. **Blood gas** within one hour of birth: pH < 7 ; base excess ≥ 15
3. **Seizures** not controlled at maximum therapeutic phenobarbital level (40 micrograms/ml)
4. **Abnormal neuroimaging:** MRI diffusion-weighted imaging and MR spectroscopy at 48 hours or within first week of life
5. **Physical examination:** Sarnat stage II at > 72 hours of life or Sarnat stage III

SARNAT

	Stage II	Stage III
Sensorium	Lethargic Dulled sense	Stuporous
Muscle tone	Hypotonia at rest Hypertonia on stimulation	Flaccid Unresponsiveness
Posture	Strong distal flexion	Intermittent decerebrate
Stretch reflexes	Decreased	Absent
Moro reflex	Incomplete High threshold	Absent
Suck reflex	Weak	Absent
Seizures	Focal or multifocal	Decerebrate posturing

SERVICES OFFERED

- Audiology
- Neurology
- Nutrition
- Occupational / Physical Therapy
- Ophthalmology
- Pediatrics / Pediatric Nursing
- Psychology
 - Psychometric / developmental assessment
 - Social / psychological support
- Speech Pathology

Referrals to other services are made as indicated by the child's condition.

SCREENING SCHEDULE

Screening is adjusted age for prematurity at:

- 3-4 months
- 12 months
- 2½ years

This schedule may vary depending on each child's needs.

FINANCIAL ELIGIBILITY

No child is denied services based on the inability to pay. Families are not charged directly for services; however, private insurance and/or Medicaid are billed.

Many insurance policies require prior authorization. In such instances, parents are asked to contact their insurance to request authorization before the scheduled visit.

Occasionally, a consultation or laboratory studies are requested. For families without a third party payment source, an in-house sliding scale is offered to help cover these charges.

For families without a third party payment source, a Medicaid outreach worker is available to answer questions and help with applications.

CLINIC LOCATIONS

Salt Lake City

Utah Department of Health
Children's Special Health
Care Needs

44 North Mario Capecchi Drive

Tuesdays and Thursdays

8:00 am to noon

Phone: 801-584-8246

Fax: 801-584-8242

Ogden

Utah School for the
Deaf and the Blind

742 Harrison Blvd

Mondays

8:00 am to noon

Phone: 801-584-8246

(Appointments)

Fax: 801-584-8242

Mailing Address:

Neonatal Follow-up Program

Box 144630

Salt Lake City, UT 84114-4630

Provo

Utah County Health and
Justice Building

151 S. University Ave Ste. 1709

Fridays

8:00 am to noon

Phone: 801-357-7627

(Appointments)

801-885-2052

(Clinic-Fridays a.m. only)

Fax: 801-370-9061



*McKenzie, 4½ years,
born at 26 weeks, 945 grams*

UTAH DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Division of Community and
Family Health Services

Neonatal Follow-up Program

Anna Bodnar, M.D.

Medical Director

44 North Mario Capecchi Dr.

Box 144630

Salt Lake City, UT 84114-4630

801-584-8246

Toll-free in-State: 1-800-829-8200



Utah
Department
of Health

2008

Neonatal Follow-up Program

A program of the

Utah Department of Health

Children's Special Health Care Needs



Jacob, 7 months, born at 26 weeks, 1065 grams